

10/500386

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (cancelled)

9. (new) A spring compressor comprising an actuator with a body (100) and a rod (115) that are telescopically movable relative to each other, and two jaws (1, 1') each comprising an attachment portion (2) for attachment to the actuator and a working portion (3) for engaging a turn of a helical spring (8, 9), in which the working portion (3) of each jaw comprises a first part (4) and a second part (12) that are hinged relative to each other, the first part (4) being connected to the attachment portion (2), wherein the first part (4) carries a circular track segment (5) for bearing against a portion of a spring turn, provided along its inside edge with a rim (7) for retaining the turn, and wherein the second part is in the form of an arm (12) hinged to the attachment portion (2) or to the first part (4) in the vicinity of one end (5c) of the track segment (5) about an axis (11) that is substantially perpendicular to the surface of the track segment (5), and whose free end forms a zone for taking charge of a turn of the spring.

10. (new) A spring compressor according to claim 9, wherein a plane (P1, P2) bisecting the portion of spring turn (8, 9) encompassed by the working portion (3) of the jaw is situated on the same side as the arm (12) relative to a plane (P3) containing the center of the spring and the center (X) of the attachment portion for attaching the jaw to the actuator.

11. (new) A compressor according to claim 9, wherein the track segment (5) is of width that increases from its free end (5a) towards its end (5c) close to the hinge (11) of the arm (12).

12. (new) A compressor according to claim 9, wherein the part (4) carrying the track segment (5) includes a tab (6) overlying its narrow portion (5a) from its inside edge (5b).

13. (new) A compressor according to claim 11, wherein the thickness of the wall of the part (4) defining the track segment (5) tapers progressively towards its free end in the zone of its narrow portion (5a).

14. (new) A compressor according to claim 9, wherein the connection between the working portion (3) and the attachment portion (2) includes a pivot (25, 26a) substantially parallel to the surface of the track (5) and passing substantially through the center of the attachment portion (2).

15. (new) A compressor according to claim 9, wherein the attachment portion (2) of each jaw is in the form of a sleeve (20) connected sideways to the working portion (3), the central recess (21) being U-shaped and open sideways away from the working portion (3), and having at least one longitudinal end situated beside the rear face of the jaw that is provided with a countersunk area (22) of diameter greater than the width of the recess (21) in the U-shape.

16. (new) A compressor according to claim 15, wherein the body (100) of the actuator includes two spaced-apart collars (101) for co-operating with the countersunk area (22) of the jaw, and a thread (103) at a distance from each collar (101)

for a nut (104a, 104b) for clamping the jaw against the collar.